



MARCH 2–5 NYC

PRESS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW YORK – MARCH 2, 2017

THE ARMORY SHOW AND ATHENA ART FINANCE ANNOUNCE MARIANE IBRAHIM GALLERY AS THE WINNER OF THE PRESENTS BOOTH PRIZE

The Somalian, Seattle-based gallerist is exhibiting a solo-presentation by Ghanaian artist Zohra Opoku

The Armory Show and Athena Art Finance Corp. are pleased to announce Mariane Ibrahim Gallery (Seattle) as the winner of the inaugural Presents Booth Prize. The **Presents Booth Prize**, supported in its inaugural year by Athena Art Finance, is a new initiative recognizing an outstanding and innovative gallery presentation within the Presents section of the fair.

By a majority decision, the international jury of collectors and curators awarded Mariane Ibrahim Gallery a \$10,000 prize for its exemplary solo-presentation of multi-media works by **Zohra Opoku**, a German and Ghanaian multidisciplinary artist living and working in Accra. Opoku's work employs media including installations, photography and video to explore the sophistication of textile cultures in disparate spaces, targeting fashion's political and psychological role and socio-cultural dynamics in relation to African history and individualistic or societal identities.

Members of the Presents Booth Prize Jury:

- Renee Drake, collector, the Netherlands
- Massimiliano Gioni, Artistic Director, New Museum, New York
- Ruba Katrib, Curator, SculptureCenter, Long Island City
- Alain Servais, Collector, Brussels
- Carole Server, Collector, New York

"We would like to thank The Armory Show for giving us the opportunity to present our project," says Mariane Ibrahim-Lenhardt, Founder, Mariane Ibrahim Gallery. "We are deeply humbled and honored to receive this prize. I'd like to dedicate it to the presented artist Zohra Opoku, whose commitment and excellence in her art practice has helped bring new narratives into an exciting global narrative. And, this Present Prize also aligns with the recognition of African descent contributions in the arts industry."

"Athena is delighted to congratulate Mariane Ibrahim Gallery on winning the Armory's first-ever Booth Prize," says Andrea Danese, Chief Executive Officer of Athena Art Finance. "We are also pleased that our sponsorship of the prize and partnership with The Armory Show has resulted in a robust process that evaluated 30 galleries, all of which have emerged and should be noted as significant young galleries. Nurturing these new entrants in the market, and supporting more established galleries and dealers

through our new gallery financing program, is a natural extension of Athena's mission to support the full spectrum of the global art market as a leading lender and provider of financial solutions."

"Promoting young galleries and nurturing their growth is central to The Armory Show's vision," says Benjamin Genocchio, Executive Director of The Armory Show. "We are so thrilled to have this exceptional jury of curators and collectors here supporting this initiative and thankful to Athena Art Finance for their generous and enthusiastic support. Each of our participating Presents galleries deserves recognition for their outstanding presentations this year and for their enduring contribution to the fair's overall quality and experience."

About Presents

Presents is a platform for young galleries no more than ten years old to showcase recent work from emerging artists. Solo-artist and dual-artist presentations spotlight the next generation of artistic talents, which visitors can discover in this in-depth and intimate setting. The Presents section has continued to expand in size each year since its introduction in 2014. The Presents section received a record number of applications this year and will increase its number of exhibiting galleries from 22 in 2016 to 30 for 2017. As part of The Armory Show's new vision of fostering young galleries and staging ambitious projects, the cost of participation in the Presents section was reduced this year and the Presents Advisory Panel established, to oversee and guide the direction of this growing section of the fair. Panel members are: Augusto Arbizo, 11R, New York; Philippe Charpentier, mor charpentier, Paris; and Jessica Silverman, Jessica Silverman Gallery, San Francisco.

About Athena Art Finance Corp.

Athena Art Finance, a New York-based global specialty art lender, joins The Armory Show as a lead sponsor for the second consecutive year. Athena's support for the Presents Booth Prize marks an expanded partnership with the fair and the first ever prize for exhibiting galleries in The Armory Show's history.

PRESENTS GALLERIES

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|--|
| Sabrina Amrani | Madrid | Joël Andrianomearisoa and Manal AlDowayan |
| El Apartamento | Havana | Diana Fonseca |
| Arcade | London | Caroline Achaintre |
| Arratia Beer | Berlin | Matthew Metzger |
| Arredondo Arozarena | Mexico City | Francisco Ugarte |
| Nicelle Beauchene Gallery | New York | Ryan Nord Kitchen |
| blank | Cape Town | Turiya Magadlela |
| Bodega | New York | Alexandra Noel |
| Callicoon Fine Arts | New York | James Hoff |
| Carroll / Fletcher | London | Joshua Citarella |
| Anat Ebgi | Los Angeles | Martin Basher |
| espaivisor | Valencia | Bleda y Rosa and Patricia Gómez & María Jesús González |
| Daniel Faria Gallery | Toronto | Shannon Bool and Elizabeth Zvonar |
| Downs & Ross | New York | Ragna Bley and Yanyan Huang |
| Gaudel de Stampa | Paris | Jill Mulleady and Jessica Warboys |
| Green Art Gallery | Dubai | Nazgol Ansarinia and Kamrooz Aram |
| Mariane Ibrahim Gallery | Seattle | Zohra Opoku |
| Instituto de Visión | Bogota | Sebastián Fierro and Ana Roldán |
| Laveronica arte contemporanea | Modica | Marinella Senatore |
| Lyles & King | New York | Ethan Greenbaum |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| M+B | Los Angeles | Nevine Mahmoud |
| MIER GALLERY | Los Angeles | Jan-Ole Schiemann |
| Nicodim Gallery | Los Angeles | Ecaterina Vrana |
| Galerie Alberta Pane | Paris | Marcos Lutyens and Romina De Novellis |
| sultana | Paris | Jacin Giordano and Bettina Samson |
| Galerie Joseph Tang | Paris | Jo-ey Tang and Carlos Reyes |
| Tiwani Contemporary | London | Gareth Nyandoro |
| Various Small Fires (VSF) | Los Angeles | Mernet Larson |
| Klaus von Nichtssagend Gallery | New York | Pamela Jordan and Ian Pedigo |
| Waldburger Wouters | Brussels | Matthias Dornfeld |

NOTES TO EDITORS

The Armory Show

The Armory Show is New York's premier art fair and a definitive cultural destination for discovering and collecting the world's most important 20th and 21st century artworks. Staged on Piers 92 & 94, one of the city's industrial gems, the fair features presentations by leading international galleries, innovative artist commissions and dynamic public programs. Since its founding in 1994, The Armory Show has served as a nexus for the international art world, inspiring dialogue, discovery and patronage in the visual arts.

Athena Art Finance

Athena Art Finance Corp. is an independent specialty finance company, dedicated to serving the needs of the global art market. Athena recently added to its services a gallery financing program specifically designed to address galleries' and dealers' capital needs. Building upon the strength of its founding shareholders, The Carlyle Group and the investors in the private equity unit of the Pictet Group, Athena Art Finance specializes in lending solutions that are secured by fine art collections.

Important Information for Media

Public Days

Thursday, March 2 - Sunday, March 5, 2017

Press Contacts

Audrey Rose Smith, The Armory Show

+1 646 616 7433

a.smith@thearmoryshow.com

Sophie Wise, Company Agenda

+1 212 358 9516

armory@companyagenda.com